



**Learn and Serve Idaho** provides young people with opportunities to serve Idaho by connecting community service with academic learning, personal growth, and civic responsibility. Grantees create new service learning programs, replicate existing models, and train staff, faculty, adult volunteers, and students in service learning. Participants are K-12, school-age youth.

Eligible applicants for Learn & Serve grants are Idaho K-12 schools of any grade span. Grantee schools must be committed to service learning as a teaching/learning strategy and as an integral component of education. The vision of Learn and Serve Idaho is to assist schools in implementing site-based programs of service learning through policy, practice, and capacity building. Learn and Serve Idaho provides financial and technical assistance to schools as they develop and implement policies and supportive structures at all levels, while reducing barriers to the institutionalization of service learning.

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you still matter in this world. I believe if everyone took time and helped one another we can achieve world peace.

**BECCA PENCE**  
OROFINO HIGH SCHOOL

One of my favorite things was when Desmond Tutu came and gave a speech. He said “nothing and no one is a mistake.” He said that if we took some of the money that we used for destruction we could use it towards our brothers and sisters good education, basic homes, and some food to eat.

“The projects they had set up weren’t just done by adults. They were done by kids so that made it interesting and inspires you to want to do a Learn and Serve project or something for your community.”

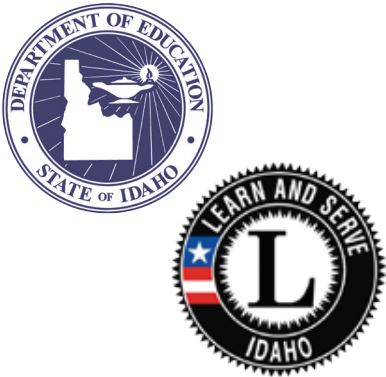
**TALIA FERGUSON**  
4TH GRADE- SORENSEN MAGNET SCHOOL

“I learned that not only helping on the playground is important, there is another thing, it is helping around the community like stopping gangs, paint over graffiti and helping families. I learned much more”

**BETSY SPAULDING**  
4TH GRADE LAPWAI ELEMENTARY

ONLINE

For more Reflections from students, please visit our website at [http://www.sde.idaho.gov/beta/learn\\_serve/reflections.htm](http://www.sde.idaho.gov/beta/learn_serve/reflections.htm)



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IDAHO LEARN AND SERVE  
SUBGRANT PROGRAM CURRENT  
SUBGRANTEES 2007-2008

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>The Alameda Center</b><br>Pocatello, ID    | <b>Mullan Trail Elementary</b><br>Post Falls, ID                                |
| <b>ANSER Charter School-</b> Boise, ID        | <b>Orofino Jr. &amp; Sr. High School</b><br>Orofino, ID                         |
| <b>Burton Elementary</b><br>Rexburg, ID       | <b>Parma Learning Center</b><br>Parma, ID                                       |
| <b>Highlands Elementary</b><br>Boise, ID      | <b>Sorensen Magnet School of the Arts &amp; Humanities</b><br>Coeur d’Alene, ID |
| <b>Lakeland High School</b><br>Rathdrum, ID   | <b>Wendell Middle School</b><br>Wendell, ID                                     |
| <b>Lapwai Elementary</b><br>Lapwai, ID        |   |
| <b>Middleton High School</b><br>Middleton, ID |   |



Note from  
the Director

Nobel Peace Prize laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu was one of the speakers at The National Service Learning Conference “Youth for a Change” held this year in Minneapolis April 9-12, 2008.

Archbishop Tutu, the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize winner, centered his teaching around promoting peace among young people. The 78-year-old South African religious leader commended those who leave their comfortable homes to help others living in poverty. “You young people are the ones that God wants to enlist,” Tutu said. “Because you young people are idealists. You dream dreams.”

Tutu joked with the audience and invoked biblical stories of David and Goliath and Mary and Jesus as examples of young people achieving greatness despite overwhelming obstacles. His talk largely avoided references to current conflicts, but he received a rousing response as he railed against war.

“Why do we spend billions on instruments of death and destruction when we could use a very small fraction of those budgets of death and ensure that children – our sisters and brothers – children everywhere in the world would have clean water to drink, would have enough food to eat, would have a decent home, would have a good education?” Tutu said.

Tutu came across as a statesman as he appealed to each individual in the audience to help achieve his dream of a better world. “And I have no one, except you, and you, and you, and you, and you, and you to help me realize my dream. Please, please, please help me.”

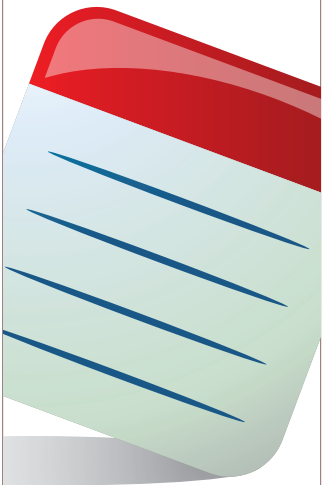
For the first time Idaho had a large representation of students and teachers at the national conference. Our sub-grantees throughout the state were able to send 14 students to the conference. These included four elementary students (two from Sorensen Magnet and two from Lapwai Elementary) two middle school students from Wendell Middle School, and eight high school students



IMPORTANT  
DATES TO  
REMEMBER

MAY 30, 2008  
LASSIE Report Due

JULY 15, 2008  
Second Progress  
Report Due







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(two from Lakeland, four from Middleton and two from Orofino). Several teachers and Service Learning Coordinators were also able to attend bringing a total of 23 attendees from Idaho.

We have had rave reviews from both the students and the coordinators about their numerous experiences and excellent workshops they attended. The two fourth graders from Sorensen Magnet School of the Arts & Humanities were part of an off-site tour at an elementary school in Minneapolis that had

a program for fourth graders to write and perform their own opera. These two students can't wait to get back to their own school to start planning their own musical.

This newsletter includes several reflections by students who attended the conference. Overall, the reports that we have received are the students that attended this conference have received new insights into service learning and are motivated to come back to their schools to encourage their peers to new heights of service learning.

# Sorensen Magnet School Of The Arts & Humanities

## Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

As Principal David Miller often says, "The place is here, the time is now; everyone counts." With the transition this year to becoming Sorensen Magnet School of the Arts and Humanities, the place really is here. Sorensen is a happenin' place, and service learning flows through the Arts and Humanities like the nearby Spokane River. Sorensen has long been a school which incorporates the downtown Coeur d'Alene community in the learning process, and the teachers are often participating in opportunities to beautify the local environment. As the Service Learning Coordinator, I have the privilege of working with an amazing team of teachers and coming alongside them to partner their already wonderful projects and ideas in a service learning connection.

Back in the fall when I met with the leadership team, they voiced several concerns about garbage being a problem in the school. With Reduce, Reuse, Recycle as our theme, we identified several main spots for this problem. The playground was identified as a constant source for litter. Through Friday Learn and Serve lessons, the students have been learning about environmental issues such as oil spills and animals around them, and during the four day service learning rotation they have been involved with such projects as making recycling

boxes for the classrooms, and making recycled paper.

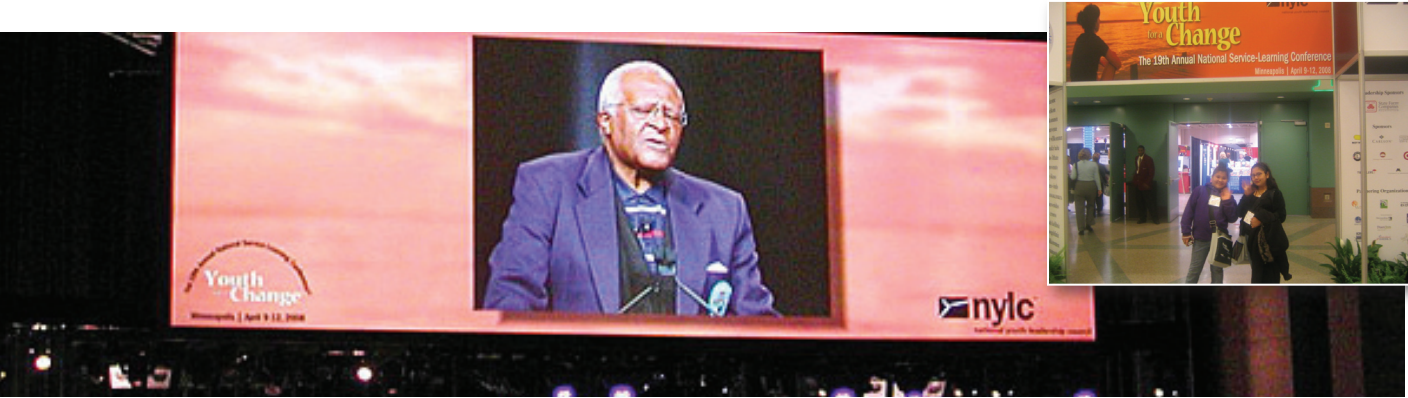
Featured recently in The Coeur d'Alene Press, the third grade classes had a grandmother of one of the students, Joyce DiGiovanni, also a flower judge for the National Garden Association, help organize the students to learn about and plant native Idaho plants which will be planted in the playground area. When she was looking for someone to help teach the plant lessons, she called consumer horticultural specialist Dr. Stephen Love, a University of Idaho research professor. Dr. Love taught the kids that using native plants helps maintain the habitat for native animals. He said it is also good for conservation because most native plants require less water. After the classroom presentation the students planted their own native seeds, which they are nurturing in the classroom. For Earth Day, all the classes will participate in a playground beatification project. This ongoing project designed by the students, will also be one of the projects represented at the end of the year Family Night of Service that is planned to showcase to the parents and other students the Learn and Serve projects of all the classes.

**Amanda Weed,**  
Service Learning Coordinator



*Cameron & Talia from Sorensen Magen School making bowls for "Empty Bowls," a nationally recognized art event that raises funds to help fight hunger & homelessness.*

# Reflections from Students who went to the National Conference



I cannot begin to say how thankful I am to be blessed with that opportunity [to go to the National Conference]. Not only was it a blast of an adventure, but also a learning experience that will stick with me for many years to come....I loved the workshops and the opportunity to explore all the booths and different opportunities that are out there, because it really opened my eyes to all the different possibilities that are out there for me....Most of all I want to make it known how fortunate and blessed I am to have gotten the opportunity to learn so much and have a better in-sight on service learning, which I plan to incorporate this year and in the years to come. Thank you for putting up with me and giving me this awesome experience that I will remember for the rest of my life!

**JOELLE SPENCER**  
MIDDLETON HIGH SCHOOL

Attending the National Youth Leadership Conference was a great experience. I enjoyed the many workshops and was able to bring a lot back to my school and community. I left the conference with a renewed energy about service learning

and ideas I can't wait to put into action. My favorite part about the conference was hearing speakers from around the world and watching different forms of entertainment. It was fun to see many different cultures come together for the goal of service learning.

**SAMANTHA SIMMONS**  
MIDDLETON HIGH SCHOOL



*Weaving the "Bridge to Change" with recycled fabric symbolizing the connection between people & their environment Mykel (bottom) & Betsy (top)*

When I was first told I was going to a National Leadership Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota I was so excited. It was something I looked forward to ever since November. And finally after months and months of planning we finally set off on our adventure.

By far the paramount part was listening to Archbishop Desmond Tutu speak about World Peace. At that moment I realized why thousands of people came there that day. This wasn't just about Leadership; it was about a gathering of peace. It was humbling to see thousands of people wanting peace and wanting to make a difference in this world. That day Archbishop Desmond Tutu became one of my heroes. Just hearing his story was absolutely amazing, and I feel honored to have experienced such a gift.

I learned many things that weekend, about how just talking to people and looking them in the eye, can be a small, but appreciated step that we all can take. I'm thankful that I've had this opportunity and hope that more people in the future will do the same thing. It's a great feeling to be a part of something bigger than yourself, but know that